Irene's Impact on Water Supply

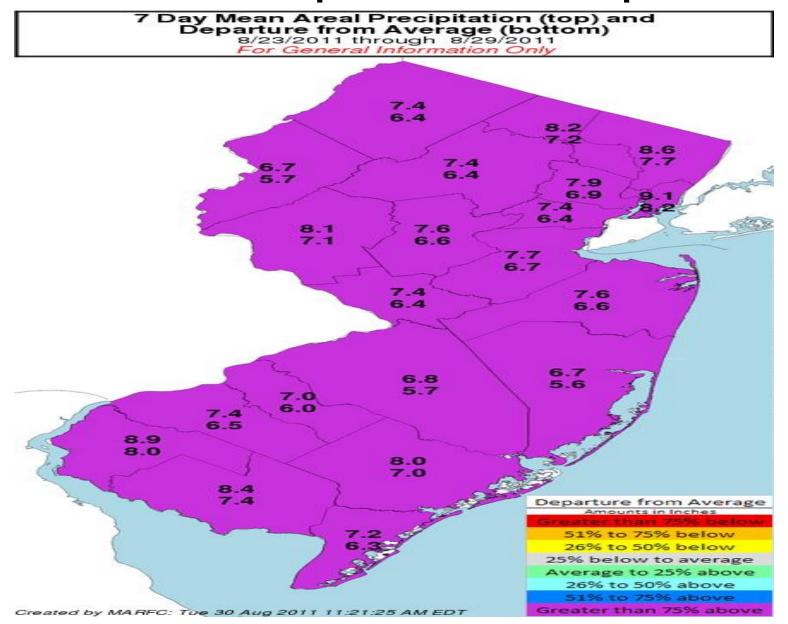
NJ Water Monitoring Council May 30, 2012

Paul Schorr, Professional Engineer, Research Scientist, M.ASCE Water Resource Planning, Division of Water Supply & Geoscience, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

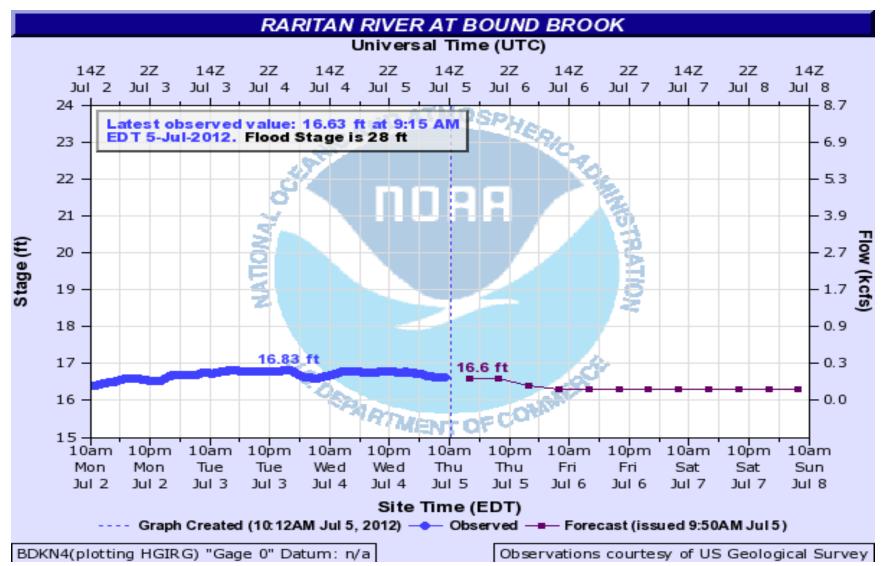
Are Impacts Predictable?

- NOAA NWS
- precipitation 1 hour to
- streamflow -- 6 hours to 3 days
- storm track 6 hours to 5 days
- storm surge ?
- Accuweather –
- precipitation 3 hours to 20 days
- USGS

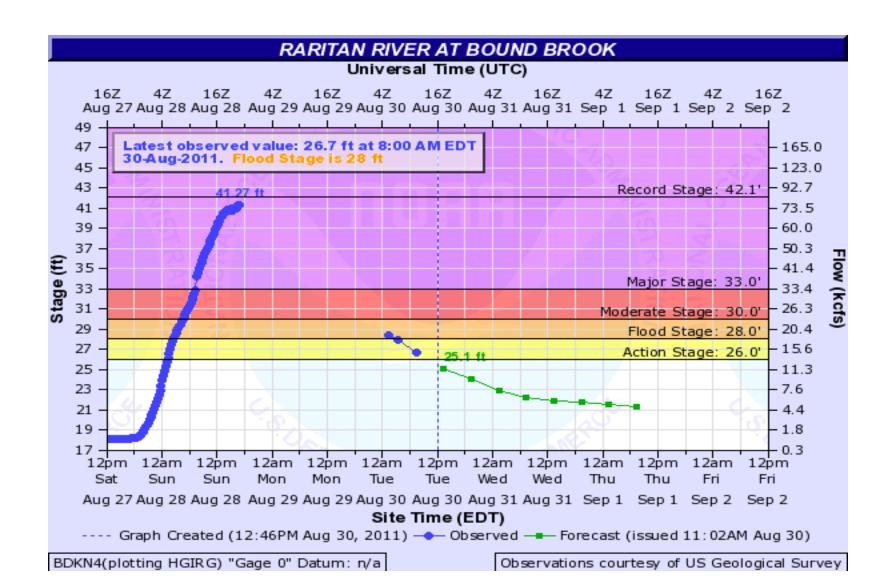
Irene's Precipitous Precipitation



Between Friday and Sunday NOAA Underpredicts Stage by 20+ feet



Irene Sets Record @ Bound Brook

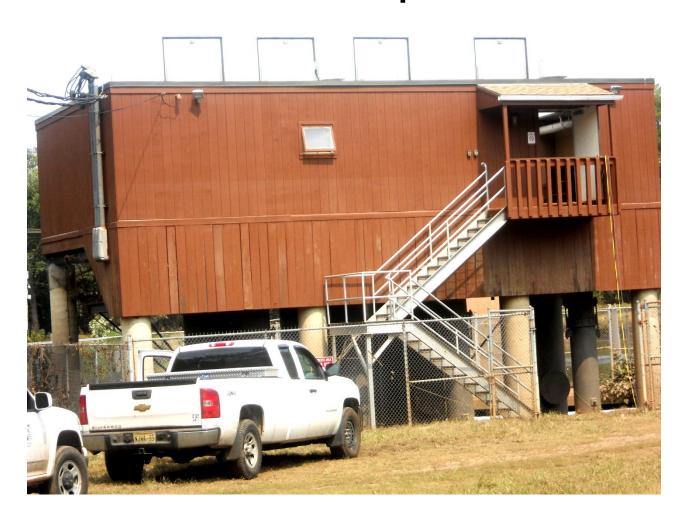


Can Infrastructure be Protected from Flooding? New Jersey Critical Locations: Raritan Millstone Passaic River D& R Canal Hightstown **Others**

NJWSA Pump Station @ Millstone & Raritan & D&R Canal – 8/30/2001



NJWSA Pump Station & High Water Mark- Sept 19, 2011



D&R Canal Lock overtopped- Irene 2011



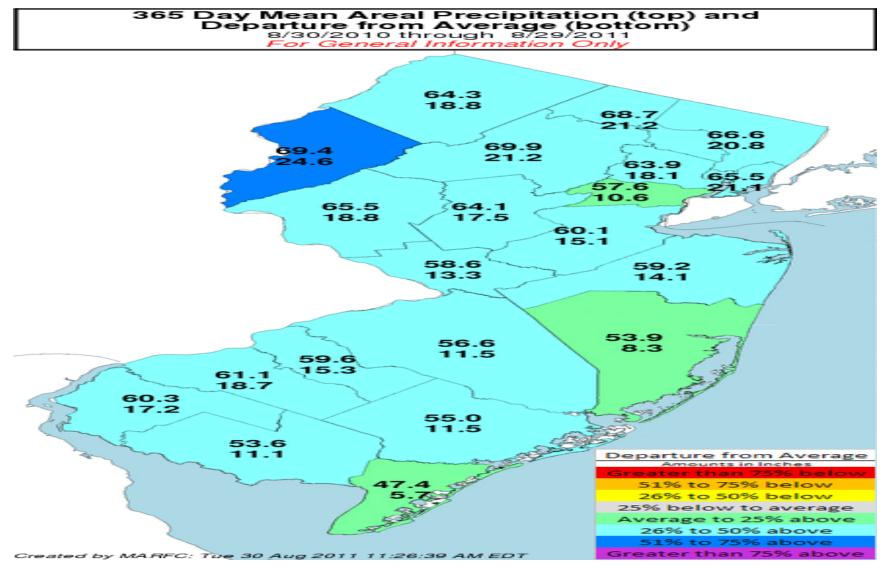
D&R Canal Raritan Millstone WTP



What's coming over what time scale?

- Cycles & Statistics
- 24 hours
- weekly
- seasons
- annually

Will Cyclical Pattern Cause Below Avg Precip by 20+ inches in 365 days?



What is a 100 year storm if 4 occur in the last 10 years?

- Raritan River @ Bound Brook
- Historic Crests
 - (1) 42.13 ft on 09/17/1999
 - (2) 41.90 ft on 08/28/2011
 - (3) 38.38 ft on 04/16/2007
 - (4) 37.47 ft on 08/28/1971
 - (5) 36.04 ft on 03/14/2010
- Reference NOAA website

How can we design and manage systems to avoid failure?

- Reservoirs
- Pumping Stations and Intakes
- WTP & STP siting
- Berm elevation
- Transmission Mains
- Interconnections
- USGS gages for quality and quantity
- i.e. turbidity, nitrate & pathogens

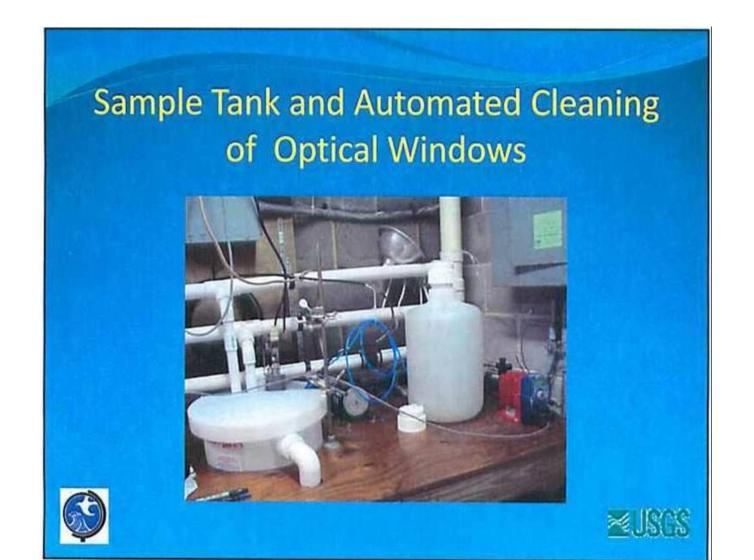
How do Organizations Know When Events outrun Plans? Which Agencies Monitor Resources?

- NJDEP -
- NJDOT
- NJDoHHS
- County
- Municipal
- Private

Water Quality Monitoring on the Passaic River at Two Bridges Forewarns Downstream Supply Intakes

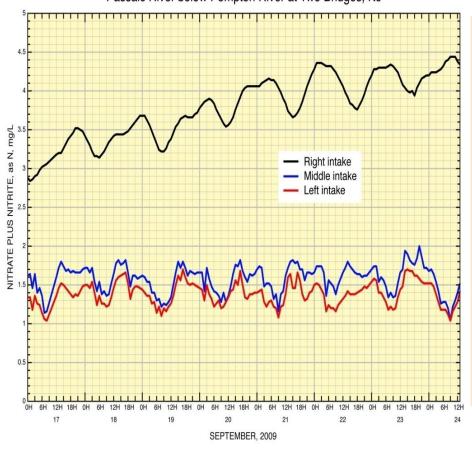
- Nitrate
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Temperature
- Specific Conductivity
- Dissolved Organic Carbon
- Turbidity
- Algal Activity

PLUMBING to MONITOR at Three Ports with Three Sensors- Leverage \$



Combine Quality and Quantity Monitors to Manage Nitrate from Point Sources

Passaic River below Pompton River at Two Bridges, NJ











ROUNDABOUT WITHOUT CONTROL



ROUNDABOUT WITH CONTROL



Thank you - USGS & NOAA for building and standardizing the water quality and quantity monitoring system in New Jersey to help umpire the many uses of our water resources during floods, droughts and routine times